

## METHOD OF OPTIMIZING A NETWORK

Abstract of the Disclosure

5           An optimized network (300), includes providing a switch card topology (350)  
having a plurality of switching elements (305), where the plurality of switching elements  
are arranged to form a switch configuration (303). N number of payload interfaces (307)  
are coupled to the switch configuration, where each of the N number of payload interfaces  
is coupled to interface with one of a plurality of payload slots (308). A set of N payload  
10   module configurations (402, 502) is characterized by a sequential addition (320) of a  
payload module (304) into each of the plurality of payload slots, where the sequential  
addition of the payload module couples the payload module to the network. N number of  
payload interfaces are coupled to the switch configuration such that a latency function  
(616) is minimized for the switch configuration and the set of N payload module  
15   configurations.